

HOUSE BILL 3903  
By Fowlkes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 16  
and Title 55, relative to municipal courts, municipal  
judges and offenses over which municipal courts  
have jurisdiction.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-18-302, is amended by deleting  
subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary:

(1) A municipal court possesses jurisdiction in and over cases:

(A) For violation of the laws and ordinances of the municipality; or

(B) Arising under the laws and ordinances of the municipality; and

(2) A municipal court also possesses jurisdiction to enforce any municipal law or  
ordinance that mirrors, substantially duplicates or incorporates by cross-reference the  
language of a state criminal statute, if and only if:

(A) The state criminal statute duplicated or cross-referenced is a Class C  
misdemeanor; and

(B) The maximum penalty prescribed by municipal law or ordinance for  
the violation is a civil fine not in excess of fifty dollars (\$50.00).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.